

Q. #1683

No. 5772

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Svenske  
Beskickningen i Tokio

The undersigned, Ripa, Olof, Swedish Diplomatic Representative in Japan, declares and certifies that the annexed document is a complete and true (photo) copy of a letter, dated Tokyo 30 December 1943, sent by the Swedish Charge d'Affaires in Japan, addressed to the Jan Foreign Minister, copy of which original document is part of the official records of the Swedish Mission in Tokyo,

Tokyo, October 31st, 1946

L.S. (Seal)

/s/ Ripa

(Signature: O. Ripa)

Tokyo, December 30th, 1943

Monsieur le Ministre,

The Netherlands Government having approached the Royal Swedish Government in a matter relating to the treatment of Netherlands subjects, made prisoners of war by the Imperial armed forces or interned by the Japanese authorities, I have the honour, in accordance with instructions received, to bring the following to the knowledge of Your Excellency.

The Netherlands Government have received information that a number of Netherlands prisoners of war and civilian internees should have been transferred by the Japanese authorities, to internment camps, which are exposed to air attacks, due to their close vicinity to military establishments, and consequently must be considered to be situated in zones of danger. It is reported that some of the camps are located in the cities on the Burma coast.

In this connection the Netherlands Government point to the stipulations contained in articles 7 and 9 of the Geneva Convention of July 27th, 1929, regarding the treatment of prisoners of war, the principles of which the Japanese Government hitherto generally seem to have been disposed to apply.

According to the aforesaid articles prisoners of war are to be interned in camps, established so far from the war zone, that their safety is not endangered. The Netherlands Government further emphasize that they, on their side, strictly adhere to the regulations of the said Convention in regard to the treatment of Japanese prisoners of war and civilian internees.

The Netherlands Government, therefore, should appreciate to receive an assurance from the Imperial Government to the effect that they are prepared to observe the above mentioned stipulations of the Geneva Convention of 1929, and that, if in some instances this should not have been the case, the Imperial Government have already taken steps to remove Netherlands prisoners of war and civilian internees from zones of danger.

I avail myself of this opportunity, Monsieur le Ministre, to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

His Excellency  
Monsieur Mamoru Shigenitsu  
Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
etc. etc. etc.  
T O K Y O

/s/ Enk von Lubow

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Doc.

文書第五七七三號

在東京瑞典使節

九三署名七九在東京瑞典外交使節、リ、オロ、RIPA, CLOFI  
米時七九文書八一九四三年一昭和十八年一十二月三十日(東京)付在日  
瑞典代理使に依り日本國外務大臣に送るべき書面全文、真実を  
複本寫真(工)より確言す。該原文書、複本、在東京瑞典使  
節、公記録、一部ナリ。

一九四六年/昭和二十年/十月三十一日東京ニテ

オ、リ、バ、〇 RIPA / 署名 /  
エ、ハ、エ、ハ、在東京瑞典使節 / 捺印

十九百四十二年/昭和十八年/十二月三十日 東京ニ於テ。

大臣閣下 日本軍俘虜トナリ、或、日本富害ニ抑留セラルル朝鮮  
國民取扱同ニ付、就、和蘭政府、及、瑞典王國政府へ申込ニヨリ  
余、安領諸訓令基キ、事柄、閣下ニ御通知スルニ榮々有スモ  
ナリ。

和蘭政府、多数、和蘭人俘虜及一般人抑留者、軍事施設ニ  
接近シ居ルタ空襲ニ暴露セリ、從テ當然危險区域内ニ在リト看做  
サル收容所、概ガリ、容ナリト、情報ヲ受領セリ。

一部、收容所、細回海岸ニ在リ諸都市ニ致シ、リ、ト傳ヘラル。

右開時、和蘭政府、日本政府が從來概ナ其、原則ヲ適用シ来  
リト看スル十九百三十九年/昭和四年/七月二十七日、新府條約、第廿條  
及第九條記載ニテ、俘虜取扱ニ関スル約款、指摘シ居リ。

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右條項ニ據テ、俘虜、其安全ヲ脅威セラルル程度ニ交戦地帯、離  
隔セリ但置ニ設テタル收容所ニ抑留セラルベキモノナリ。 地方和蘭政府、  
更ニ該政府が日本俘虜及一般人抑留者、取扱ニ関シ、該條約、條規



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嚴格遵守スルコトヲ強調シ居シ。

此故ニ和蘭政府ハ日本政府ガ上述ノ一九〇九年「昭和四年」ノ爲  
府條約、約款遵守、用意スル旨、及若シ或ハ陽合此事ナキ時ハ日本  
政府ガ既ニ和蘭人保護及一般人民留者。危險地帯ヨリ移轉スル意  
圖ヲ講セシ旨、除證々日本政府ヨリ得ル事甚ト入ルモナリ。

大臣閣下 余ハ此據層々閣下ニ付シ更ニ深甚ニ敬意ヲ表スナリ。

東京

外務大臣

重光

奏閣下

No. 2